

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 16119 071410Z

53

ACTION EA-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-03 AID-05 OMB-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-09 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-14 USIA-04 DRC-01 /063 W
----- 024972

R 071110Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7433

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL CHIANGMAI

AMCONSUL UDORN

CINCPAC HONOLULU

DIA WASHDC

13TH AIR FORCE/IN CLARK AB

UNCLAS BANGKOK 16119

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, TH

SUBJECT: CONSTITUTION PROMULGATION AND THE KING'S RESERVATIONS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: A) FBIS D070925Z OCT 74 B) FBIS D070846Z OCT 74
C) BANGKOK 16047

1. THE KING SIGNED THE CONSTITUTION OCTOBER 7, 1974. AND
NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SPEAKER KHUNKRIT PRAMOT
ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL BE PROMULGATED LATER THE SAME DAY.
THE KING, HOWEVER, PUBLISHED REMARKS INDICATING HIS
DISPLEASURE WITH CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION.
REF A IS AN OFFICIALS THAI TRANSLATION OF THE KING'S
REMARKS CONCERNING THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION. THE KING
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OBJECTS TO ARTICLE 107 WHICH AUTHORIZES THE PRESIDENT

OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL, WHO IS ROYALLY APPOINTED, TO COUNTER-SIGN THE ROYAL COMMAND APPOINTING MEMBERS OF THE SENATE. THE KING ARGUES THAT THIS PROVISION IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLE THAT THE KING IS ABOVE POLITICS. HE ALSO COMPLAINED THAT THE PREAMBLE OF THE CONSTITUTION IS TOO LONG AND THAT IT SHOULD CONTAIN A STATEMENT THAT THE CONSTITUTION CAN BE CHANGED ACCORDING TO THE SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY. HE EXPRESSED HIS OPINION THAT THESE AND OTHER PROBLEMS MAY REQUIRE SOME AMMENDMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS FOLLOWING THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURE.

2. KHUKRIT DISTRIBUTED THE KING'S REMARKS TO THE PRESS OCTOBER 7 SAYING THAT THEY ARE ADVICE AND OBSERVATIONS WHICH IT IS THE DUTY OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER. HE SAID THAT THE DEMANDS RAISED BY STUDENTS ARE INCLUDED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE ROYAL REMARKS WHICH REFERS TO OTHER PROBLEMS WHICH DESERVE CONSIDERATION AND MAY REQUIRE AMENDMENTS ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURE. KHUKRIT ALSO ANNOUNCED OFFICIALLY THAT HE WILL SUBMIT HIS RESIGNATION AS NLA SPEAKER OCTOBER 10 SINCE HE WILL BE INVOLVED IN REGISTERING A POLITICAL PARY AND STANDING FOR ELECTION.
MASTERS

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Message Attributes

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